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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of PUSHKO et al.

Appln. No.: 09/491,974

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: January 27, 2000

Examiner: P. Brunovskis, P.

Title: DNA Vaccine Against Hantavirus Infection

May 31, 2001

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 1, 2001 in connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15, 21 and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 26 and 27 as follows.

a' 1. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising an inert particle suitable for carrying a polynucleotide stably coated thereon; and a polynucleotide coated onto the particle, the polynucleotide comprising a promoter operative in the cells of a mammal and a protein coding region encoding an M gene segment protein comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, which sequence includes at least one antigenic determinant of a hantavirus protein.

a<sup>2</sup> 7. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide comprises pWRG-SEO-M.